

NEEDS OF LIVING THINGS

Students compare how the school tank meets the basic needs of salmon with how a healthy habitat meets those needs in the wild.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Identify the basic needs of salmon and how a healthy natural habitat meets those needs.
- Compare how the artificial environment of a school tank meets those same needs.
- Cultivate observation skills.

PREPARATION

1. Acquaint yourself with the book, *Salmon Forest*.
2. Preview the short video of juvenile salmon underwater, such as the footage at www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VAJkckoOo (1.26 mins.).
3. Make one copy of the attached tank diagram for each student.
4. Have one clipboard or other hard surface on which each student can draw at the tank.

WHAT TO DO

1. Read *Salmon Forest* to the class, stopping at the page illustrated with an otter holding a salmon.
2. View the video and point out how the needs of juvenile salmon are being met; show it again.
3. Ask questions to tease out what the story and video say that salmon in the wild need. List student answers on the board.
4. Take students to the tank and review these basic needs as you point out how they are being met in an artificial environment, including
 - cold water (chiller)
 - clean water (filters and net to remove any debris)
 - oxygen (aerator tubes)
 - protection (lid on tank)
 - food (whatever fish food is currently being fed)
5. Give each student a copy of the tank diagram, a surface on which to draw, and a pencil.
6. Tell students to draw the things they see in the tank that are meeting the needs of salmon.
7. Take students back to the classroom and invite questions.
8. If time permits, encourage students to add detail or color to their diagrams.
9. Post drawings around the tank if you see fit.

GRADE

Kindergarten

NEXT GENERATION

ESS3-1

COMMON CORE

K-ESS3-1, 2, 3

TIME

30-40 minutes

